



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A PROCLAMATION

VIDALIA ONION FESTIVAL DAYS

- WHEREAS: The Vidalia Onion Festival celebrates the annual harvest of Georgia's state vegetable, the Vidalia Onion®, and attracts more than 50,000 visitors from around the world to South Georgia each year; and
- WHEREAS: Providing a significant economic boost for the South Georgia region, the Vidalia Onion Festival has grown tremendously since its humble beginning in 1977, when the Vidalia Women's Club and the Vidalia Lion's Club organized an arts and crafts festival as a fundraiser to promote the Vidalia Onion; and
- WHEREAS: The Vidalia Onion Festival operates on local contributions, event sponsorship and limited revenue-generating activities, and in turn, donates funds back to the community throughout the year; and
- WHEREAS: The 41st annual Vidalia Onion Festival includes the children's parade and Movie Under the Stars on April 26, a street dance and fireworks in Downtown Vidalia with the Mo' Sol Band on April 27, and a concert featuring Phil Vassar on April 28; and
- WHEREAS: With the aroma of freshly cooked Vidalia Onions, the celebration of the Vidalia Onion harvest is shared with people from around the world, beginning with the crowning of the 2018 Miss Vidalia Onion, the Onion Run, onion cooking events, arts and crafts, live entertainment, a carnival, the new "Vidalia's Got Talent" show, and recognition of Vidalia Onion lore; now
- THEREFORE: I, NATHAN DEAL, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim April 26–29, 2018, as VIDALIA ONION FESTIVAL DAYS in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 30th day of March in the year of our Lord two thousand eighteen.



Nathan Deal
GOVERNOR

ATTEST

Chris W. Riley
CHIEF OF STAFF